

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 05524 262220 Z

72

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCEM-02 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06

SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12

RSR-01 /157 W

----- 057763

R 262156 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 339

CONFIDENTIAL CARACAS 5524

E. O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT VE  
SUBJECT: LUNCHEON WITH COPEI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

1. I GAVE A LUNCHEON TODAY FOR COPEYANO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE LORENZO FERNANDEZ. IT WAS ATTENDED BY ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE PARTY GODOFREDO GONZALEZ, FORMER AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON JULIO SOSA, PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL PEDRO PABLO AQUILAR AND HIS DEPUTY EDUARDO FERNANDEZ, PLUS OSWALDO ALVAREZ PAZ, A MEMBER OF THE COPEI NATIONAL COMMITTEE, AND BERNARDO LEVEL OSUNA, THE COPEI INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY. FORTUNATELY, SENATE STAFFDEL HOLT WAS ABLE TO ATTEND.

2. IN A LENGTHY CONVERSATION ALONE WITH LORENZO FERNANDEZ, HE WAS EXCEEDINGLY FRIENDLY AND EXUDED CONFIDENCE AS TO HIS CHANCES OF BECOMING VENEZUELA'S NEXT PRESIDENT. HE SAID THAT SO FAR AS FOREIGN INVESTMENT WAS CONCERNED, HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO CONTINUE SEEKING THE AID OF FOREIGN CAPITAL, KEEPING IN MIND, HOWEVER, VENEZUELA'S NATIONAL INTEREST. HE SEEMED QUITE RECEPTIVE TO MY STANDARD TALK ABOUT REACHING A LONG- TERM ENERGY AGREEMENT. FERNANDEZ SAID THAT HE AT LAST WAS FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT NEITHER USG NOR THIS EMBASSY WAS INVOLVED IN ANY WAY IN SUPPORTING ONE

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CANDIDATE OR ANOTHER IN THE FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL AND CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, HE DID SUSPECT THAT SOME AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES WERE SUPPORTING HIS PRINCIPAL OPPONENT, CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ.

MCCLINTOCK

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973CARACA05524  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** RR  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24-Jan-2002 by smithrj>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>  
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EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980225  
**Subject:** LUNCHEON WITH COPEI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE  
**TAGS:** PINT, VE  
**To:** ARA  
**SECSTATE WASHDC**  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005